

Academy To Blast 2 Ferry Hulks

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Residents of South Vallejo—particularly the Carquinez Heights section—were warned today not to get frightened if a series of four heavy explosions rocks their homes Monday.

The blasts will be set off on the beach south of the California Maritime Academy in an attempt to break up two large,

old hulks of ferryboats now in the tidewaters.

Commo. Russell M. Ihrig, academy superintendent, said the State Department of Public Works will set off four charges in the wrecks. Each charge will be fairly heavy, using 75 pounds of nitro-glycerin and other new-type explosives.

"They may jar Carquinez quite a bit," one officer said.

The blasts will be started at 9:30 a. m. Monday, and nearby residents were warned not to get excited.

Academy officials have waited until the training ship Golden Bear sailed from her Morrow Cove berth to arrange

for the blasting in order not to damage her hull.

The beached remains of the ferryboats have been a hindrance in the academy area for years, according to Commodore Ihrig.

One of the vessels was an old Southern Pacific railroad ferryboat which caught fire and burned to the water line some years back, it was learned. The owners ran her up on the beach.

Both hulks are some 200 feet from land, and stick up out of the water at low tide.

The explosions will be used in an attempt to break up the ships. Then they will be hauled out of the water onto the beach.

Monday's blast—one of which will feature use of 60 per cent gelatin-extra, a new blasting compound—have been described as "test blasts," with others coming later.